

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 04297 071010Z

51

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 PM-03 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00

SAM-01 PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 /045 W

----- 019348

R 070855Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1979

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USLO PEKING

USUN 0638

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 4297

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH IMELDA MARCOS

1. IMELDA MARCOS RETURNED APRIL 1 FROM EXTENDED TRAVELS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, HER ENTOURAGE ON THAT TRIP HAS INITIATED CONSIDERABLE "THIRD WORLD" PROPAGANDA SINCE HER RETURN, MUCH OF IT DEEPLY LARDED WITH ANTI-AMERICAN OVERTONES. I HAD MY FIRST OPPORTUNITY, SINCE HER RETURN, TO TALK SUBSTANTIVELY WITH HER ON EVENING APRIL 4.

2. OCCASION WAS "OLD SOCIETY" STYLE DINNER PARTY WHICH SHE AND PRESIDENT MARCOS ATTENDED AS GUESTS. IN RELAXED ATMOSPHERE, I DANCED WITH HER SEVERAL TIMES, SHE AND I WERE DRAGOONED BY OUR HOST TO SING A DUET ("STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT"), AND CHIT-CHAT LASTED WELL BEYOND CURFEW HOUR. FOLLOWING ARE SOME IMPRESSIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 04297 071010Z

3. UNITED STATES. IMELDA WAS RATHER TART ABOUT THE UNITED

STATES, REFLECTING FACT SHE HAS RECEIVED NO RPT NO OFFICIAL ATTENTION IN HER LAST TWO PRIVATE VISITS THERE. SHE WAS ESPECIALLY BITTER ABOUT U.S. PRESS "DISTORTIONS" OF EVENTS IN PHILIPPINES AND SAID SHE WAS NO LONGER GOING TO BOTHER TO TRY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT. SHE QUOTED HENRY FORD WITH APPROVAL "NEVER COMPLAIN, NEVER EXPLAIN." (THE MARCOS CHILDREN, INCIDENTALLY, SPENT THEIR EASTER VACATION SKIING WITH HENRY FORD.)

4. CHINA. BY CONTRAST WITH U.S, THE CHINESE SEEMED VERY UNDERSTANDING. CHINESE AMBASSADORS IN LONDON, NEW YORK, AND CAIRO GAVE HER DINNERS. SHE FOUND THEM ALL EXTREMELY WISE AND WELL-INFORMEDMEN. THEY HAD ASIAN SENSITIVITY.

5. SAUDI ARABIA. SHE WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED BY THE NEW KING -PARTLY BECAUSE SHE BROUGHT WITH HER DER. FFLER OF CLEVELAND WHO HAD DONE HIS OPEN-HEART SURGERY. SHE ESPECAILLY LIKED THE NEW YOUNG FOREIGN MINISTER, "A PRINCETON MAN." (SHE GAVE HIM NAME OF HER DAUGHTER, IMEE, WHO IS A JUNIOR AT PRINCETON.)

6.EGYPT.SHE HIT OFF VERY WELL WITH MRS. SADAT, AND EXPECTS LATTER TO VISIT HER HERE. SHE FOUND SADAT, WHOM SHE VISITED IN MIDST LAST FEW ROUNDS OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY, A MAN WHO IS "ESSENTIALLY A POLITICIAN".

7. ALGERIA. SHE WENT TO ALGIERS WITH SOME RELUCTANCE. HOWEVER, SHE FOUND BOUMEDIENE "VERY IMPRESSIVE. I THINK HE IS AN HONEST BROKER."

8. LIBYA. ALTHOUGH SHE DID NOT VISIT LIBYA, SHE SAID SHE GAINED USEFUL INSIGHT IN KHADDAFI FROM TALKS WITH OTHER ARABS. SHE IS PREPARED TO BELIEVE THAT HIS INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES IS "IDEALISTICALLY INSPIRED" AND BASED ON MISINFORMATION. SHE WAS INCLINED TO HAVE HARSHER VIEW OF OTHERS BETTER INFORMED (SEE INDONESIA).

9. INDONESIA. SHE MADE DARK ALLUSIONS TO INDONESIAN DUPLICITYIN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES. WHEN I EXPRESSED AMAZEMENT, SHE WITHDREW A BIT, BUT SAID SHE WOULD "LOOK
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 04297 071010Z

INTO THINGS" WHEN SHE TRAVELS TO JAKARTA AT THE END OF NEXT WEEK TO HELP INAUGURATE MRS. SUHARTO'S LITTLE DISNEYLAND.

10. DIPLOMACY. SHE SAID SHE FOUND "DIPLOMACY" FASCINATING AND INTENDED TO CONTINUE ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH IT. SHE FELT SHE COULD DO A GREAT DEAL FOR THE PHILIPPINES, AND "SOMETIMES, FOR OTHERS." SUPER-I?

SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA04297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750119-1075
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750476/aaaacrdi.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <06 NOV 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH IMELDA MARCOS
TAGS: PFOR, RP, (MARCOS, IMELDA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006